Lt. Frank W. Loops, O-667527
432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster N.Y.C.

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418-13th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

Frank W. Loops

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.

PASSED BY [illegible] F. Loops Lt. A.C.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. + Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418 - 13th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A

Lt. Frank W. Loops 0667527
(Sender's name)
432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
(Sender's address)
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster N.Y.C.
October 28, 1943
(Date)

Hiya Folks,

Time out a few minutes before I go to bed to write you! 'Cause, I could have written this afternoon 'cept that I went to town instead. - Still trying to get my raincoat! The PX in town only had a few odd sizes left which didn't fit. Each day they expect another shipment in - and each day it doesn't come - Hence I trot into town every other day or so when I get the chance. One thing I did get, however, - and, that, you would never guess - A pair of pajamas! - Yessir - it will make the first time I've used them in over two years I've been in the Army! - Thought they might be a good idea, tho, 'cause, these nights are getting awfully cold and it will help cover my legs + arms. - If need be - I'll get some "long handles" and use them for pajamas! It will have to get a bit colder for that, tho.

Received the package containing the brownies and Nestle's chocolates yesterday. - The chocolates were in fine condition - and the brownies are in good condition, too. - tho just a slight bit moldy. I don't see how they could be packed like they were unless its the moisture in the cookies themselves. They weren't bad - just some of 'em looked like a covering of the faintest bit of frost. - I scraped that off - and they taste swell. - Everyone has eaten them without hesitating with the same results: that satisfied feeling that can only come by eating → home made cookies way over here in Africa! - A most enjoyable feeling, believe me! - Thanks ever so much!

Lots + lots of Love, Frank

V-MAIL

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 1

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. ______

PASSED BY U.S. ARMY EXAMINER BASE

F. W. Loops
Lt. A.C.

(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418 - 13th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

Lt. Frank W. Loops 0-667527
(Sender's name)
432 Sqdn. 17th Bomb. Gp.
(Sender's address)
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster N.Y.C.

November 9, 1943
(Date)

Hiya Folks,

Here I am again - don't know why, for I have nothing to say, startling or otherwise! - Same old seven & six with plenty of rain to make flying fall off some. Have spent the day reading and writing mostly. - In between times we take time out for a bull session of flying. Have often wondered what on earth a bunch of flyers would talk about if they didn't have flying. Now I know it's a blessing they have that to fall back on. Don't know how we get so many tales to ~~fall~~ talk about - but we do. You get around to repeating your own so seldom that they are even interesting to hear again! We must have gone thru primary, basic & advance over and over. We even have the bombardiers and navigators swearing that when they get back to the U.S. they are going to put in for pilot training!

No mail for 5 or 6 days now but we know what's holding it up so we are bearing up better than usual. Always glad tho when our mail comes thru.

Guess if I'm not on the schedule for tomorrow I'll go to town and bum around. - Depending on what I find to do as to how long I'll stay. There's always the attraction of getting ice cream at the Red Cross in the afternoon!

Love, again
Frank

V---MAIL

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 1

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No. ____

(CENSOR'S STAMP) F.W. Loops Lt., A.C.

To: Mr. + Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418 - 13th St., N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

From
Lt. Frank W. Loops, 0-667527 (Sender's name)
432 Sqdn, 17th Bomb. Gp. (Sender's address)
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster NYC.
Nov. 4, 1943 (Date)

Hiya Folks,

Just came back to the tent after seeing Lana Turner in "Slightly Dangerous" - Was very good - and we really enjoyed it. - Also - several fellows came back with me, so we got out ye olde stove, some water, and proceeded to boil a couple of eggs a piece! - They, likewise, were good and enjoyed! A luxury we can't afford often for the simple reason of no eggs! - Mine are almost gone now, so guess I'll soon be in the same class as the other fellows - hungry!

Received Sister's V-mail of Oct. 26th today. - Glad you got my pictures of rest camp and stuff. Now you can see why I could enjoy myself so well. I wasn't surprised that you couldn't find it on your Atlas! - Someday I shall have to tell you a "big" place near it! Glad, too, to learn of Bill Hetzel's return home. I'm afraid his movements have been a bit too quick for me to follow - Especially from just the news you've given me, but I think I know about what has happened!

Got to go to bed now. - Tomorrow am going "afindin'" again. - It will make the first time in almost 2 months for me. It's funny. - You don't like to do it, but everyone you go on means one more closer to going home! - That's for me! So 'bye now and be good + I'll be careful! - Lots + Lots of

Love, Frank

V-MAIL

Print the complete address in plain block letters in the panel below, and your return address in the space provided. Use typewriter, dark ink, or pencil. Write plainly. Very small writing is not suitable.

No.________

F.W. Loops
Lt. A.C.
(CENSOR'S STAMP)

Mr. & Mrs. Charles E. Loops
5418-13th St. N.W.
Washington, D.C.
U.S.A.

Lt. Frank W. Loops, O6675[illegible]
(Sender's name)
432 Sqdn. 17th Bomb. Gp.
(Sender's address)
A.P.O. 520, % Postmaster N.Y.
October 19, 1943
(Date)

Hello Folks,

Don't know exactly how come you rate 2 letters the same day but being as how one was a regular one, and it was really started yesterday, guess I can afford it! Besides, something happened this afternoon that you should know about anyway, and when you come down to it, - why am I explaining a second letter in the first place?

This afternoon I "officially" received my first air medal - tho' it's really not a medal - only the ribbon signifying it! - The real thing to be issued after the war, I understand. - Some weeks ago I got my official orders that both the medal & oak leaf cluster were mine and, that, I thought, finished that - but no. - Today they got us all dressed up - shaved and everything - and got us lined up for the General! - Then Gen. Webster pinned the award on each and every one of us as we were called by name and walked up to him just like in the movies - except our setting probably wasn't as nice as Hollywood would have prepared! - Some stuff, eh? I just lack one more mission from earning my 2nd oak leaf cluster to it and as soon as we begin "a-feudin'" again - I expect to have that! -

But - I still say - they can keep all of them as far as I'm concerned just so I get home!

I told you in my other letter about getting the package of candy and cans of peanuts. - Thanks a lot. I'm sure they will continue to be enjoyed until the last crumb is gone! - - I'm flying again tomorrow as first pilot. - It's getting to be such an occurance that it is getting in the not worth mentioning stage! This seems to be the lot so - - Bye and lots of love, Frank

V-MAIL

POST OFFICE DEPARTMENT PERMIT NO. 1

432 Sqdn., 17th Bomb. Gp.
A.P.O. 520, % Postmstr. N.Y.C.
October 25, 1943

Hello Folks, -

Surprised to see air mail paper? No telling what you might find for awhile! - You see, I've inherited quite a bit of miscellaneous (?) "crap" from these fellows that have gone home - among them - "writing paper" as you can see! -

I got a pair of "golashes" from Fitz when he left, so I'm all set for these rainy days ahead that every one says we will get. - In fact with the acquisition of a little gasoline pressure stove (like a blow torch) and a rain coat with a liner and all, - I'll have just about everything except one of these super delux "bed rolls" the army issued for awhile. Some day I'll even manage one of them, I hope! - Surely you've seen or read discriptions of 'em with rubber mattresses that blow

up and everything.

The rain coat I'm going to get tomorrow if I can get to town. - Was in for it the other day but all they had were too big for me. - However there's supposed to be a new supply in stock tomorrow so that's the why of getting in tomorrow. I believe I described it to you before didn't I? - It has a heavy removable lining with a "parka" affair that pulls over the head and by the time it's all laced and buttoned up - only your eyes are exposed to the elements! I have a regular G.I. one I bought, but the other will be much better if I have to be out much in the weather. Besides - if it has to be done - it will make a passable top coat if I ever need one - tho I don't expect to be where I'll need such a thing for social functions and such. - Just another selling point. (You can see I'm still trying to sell myself on the coat!)

Fitzpatrick + Max Shields left for "home" yesterday. What happy men.

They didn't wait for orders on "how" to go. - Just as soon as they got the orders relieving them from duty over here and telling them to report to the U.S. - our sqdn furnished them a ride to a terminal point. - From there they will "hitch" a ride probably by plane - but perhaps by boat. - Had they waited "travel orders" it would have taken them at least 10 days or 2 weeks more to get started. - Imagine hitch hiking home from Africa!

I told them - as I've told others - that if they should happen to go by or have to report to D.C. - to be sure and look you all up - or at least telephone. - I'm sure they will, if not the others, cause Fitz, as I've said - was pretty close to me! -

I wrote Joe a letter the other day and enclosed most of my negatives I had on my roll of films. - I'll put the rest in here - and then you will have all I can send you of that roll. My next one - the roll of "rest camp" is all finished but needs to be ~~exposed~~ processed. As Cap't Hahn is my agent for having my work

done - and he is away at present, that one will have to wait. - Should be some good pictures on it.

Gee - a cold front has been trying to move in all day - and now it is here. - The wind isn't so much now - but the rain is settling down like it means business. A good night for sleeping. - Talk about your rain on a tin roof, - have you ever heard it on a tent? That has sleeping qualities too!

Went on a ferrying trip a few days ago. - Took a plane to a training base back in Africa (I mean further back!). Was supposed to be picked up at that field by another plane and be brought back here but somehow the time didn't work out. I had to hitch a ride to another field where another plane was and come home with them. - You should have seen my engineer, copilot + myself standing along the roadway with our parachutes - thumbing G.I. trucks as they passed! - All connections were made, however, and we got back in time for dinner (or should I say supper?).

I'm on a crew now - with another "checked out" copilot. - we take turns being first pilot and am sure that the next time

5] the opportunity presents itself - I will be given a crew and ship all of my own. - However, the present arrangements are swell - as we can both share the responsibility - and we have a good time. This is one of the old fellows in the Sqdn - named Harry Foster, ~~and~~ home in Indianapolis. He used to be a ~~pharmacist~~ pharmacist! What queer people fly airplanes!

Sorry to hear of Bill Wetzel being shot down - but glad he survived it all O.K. I take it that since his folks heard from him, he is a prisoner of war? - I know they are glad it's no worse. Fitz had a bad break about 2 weeks ago. - His brother was shot down over enemy territory - but the other ships saw all the "chutes" open up, so he is sure his brother is at least a prisoner of war. - He hopes maybe he could have "hold up" and made his way back to friendly lines. - That happens every day - but sometimes it takes months for reports to go thru.

Well, - the rain has put every one else in the tent asleep, - so guess I can't hold out much longer. - I got up before six this morning and went flying so am sorta ready for "ye olde bed". - Things like sleep sorta slip up on one every so often!

Hope the mail picks up. For some

reason, it has slacked up a mite. - I got a V mail from Sister today - the first of any sort I've gotten in 4 or 5 days. - There just doesn't seem to be much coming in for anyone.

Seems like there was something else I wanted to say, - but maybe I will think of it next time! - So for now - let's just say

Finite and Lots + Lots of Love from

Frank

P.S. Sorry the negatives had to be cut up so, but I had to censure them as no pictures of planes can be sent!